OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE AGENCIES OF THE ILLINOIS GOVERNOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OEIG Requests Updated Ethics Procedures Executive Order will clarify procedures for Agencies of the Governor

Chicago: Acting Executive Inspector General Maggie Hickey today discussed the requests made to the Office of the Governor to strengthen and improve ethics enforcement in state government. Governor Bruce Rauner is expected to sign an Executive Order today to clarify those procedures for a more efficient and ethical state government.

"The Ethics Act lays out a means for enforcing ethical standards, and this action by Gov. Rauner will ensure that all employees of Agencies of the Governor are working toward the same goal," said Acting EIG Hickey.

Acting EIG Hickey made three specific requests to clarify state employees' obligations to enforce the Ethics Act. Two of the requests are in Section V and will clarify that state employees are required to report information on violations and that agencies may continue to investigate misconduct after referring the matter to the OEIG; and the other is in Section VI on hiring and employment monitoring.

"Hiring and employment monitoring is separate from the OEIG's investigative function, and will entail proactively conducting compliance reviews and working collaboratively with agencies on strengthening personnel decisions," said Acting EIG Hickey. "By providing this authority, the OEIG will have easier access to personnel documentation, processes and practices, which will reinforce the State's commitment to ensuring integrity in hiring and employment practices."

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About the Office of Executive Inspector General for Agencies of the Illinois Governor:

The OEIG draws statutory authority from the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430), enacted in 2003. The OEIG receives, evaluates, and investigates allegations of fraud waste, abuse, mismanagement, misconduct, and violations of the Ethics Act and other laws. Please visit our website at inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov.